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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/579,943
Applicant : Yukinori IIZUKA et al
Filed : May 22, 2006
TC/A.U. : 1725
Docket No. : 06334/HG
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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A copy of each of the publications identified in the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A is enclosed herewith (except for United States patent publications). Citation No. 3 is also identified in the enclosed copy of the SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT in the corresponding EP application. Cite Nos. 1 and 2 are patent family members of Cite No. 3.

It is requested that said publications be considered and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A with the Examiner's

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initials in the left column be returned to the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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HG/lpv

Encs.: Form PTO/SB/08A and non-U.S. publication identified
thereon; SUPPLEMENTARY EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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10579943 - GAU: 1793

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**


Application Number

10/579,943

Filing Date

May 22, 2006

First Named Inventor

Yukinori IIZUKA et al

Group Art Unit

~~1725~~

Examiner Name

Sheet

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of

1

Attorney Docket Number

06334/HG

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
/KPK/	1	6,896,035	B2	IIZUKE et al	05-24-2005	
/KPK/	2	2003/0141036	A1	IISUKA et al	07-31-2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
/KPK/	3	EP	1 298 429	A1	NKK CORPORATION	04-02-2003		

Examiner
Signature

/Kevin Kerns/

Date
Considered

05/29/2009

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPBP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

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